

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 3, of the specification with the following rewritten paragraph (with marking to show changes made):

A1 -- Within the AGC 206, the variable band-pass filters 208 and 210 respectively receive the equalizer output 222 and the digital output 224 as inputs to the AGC 206. The bandwidth of the variable band-pass filters 208 and 210 is adjusted by the band-pass control signal 230 (K-BPF) depending upon the data rate of the signal being equalized. The function and characteristics of the variable band-passed filters are discussed in more detail below with reference to Figs. 11 ~~14~~ and 12 ~~15~~. Once the equalizer and digital outputs 222 and 224 have been band-limited by the variable band-pass filters 208 and 210, the signals are respectively coupled to the input of the envelope detectors 212 and 214, each of which generates an energy-level output proportional to the swing of its input signal. The envelope detectors 212 and 214 may be comprised of rectifiers, but could, alternatively, be any device or combination of devices capable of generating an output signal proportional to the energy (swing) of its input signal. The difference between the energy-level outputs of the envelope detectors 212 and 214 is then determined by the adder 216. --